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GUN CONTROL BILLS WOULD RESTRICT RIGHTS

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to these firearms and background check bills that would not be effective in ending gun violence.

Instead, these bills would restrict the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans. Simply increasing the number of laws and adding more hurdles to lawful gun ownership does not get to the core of reducing gun violence.

These changes to the background check system won't stop criminals from obtaining firearms. Why don't we focus our efforts on smart policies that would actually reduce the number of gun deaths?

Last year, more Americans bought more guns than ever. In fact, gun ownership has grown significantly over the last 20 years, but we have also seen our violent crime rate drop over that same period. Rather than going after law-abiding citizens, let's figure out where we can work together to address the real problems here. Let us invest in solving the real policy questions we can answer instead of restricting Americans' freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose these bills.

DELIVERING ON COMMITMENT TO BUILD BACK BETTER

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the critically needed support for northern Ohioans in the American Rescue Plan, which has just passed this House.

For months, we fought to provide direct support to people across our country who were suffering during the pandemic. I am thrilled that the bill provides vital support for families, communities, essential workers, and small businesses.

The bill provides \$1,400 in stimulus payments to spur our economy and help families, funding for vaccine distribution, and a historical increase of the child tax credit from \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Let's be clear: The Republicans' opposition demonstrates their callousness during this time of great human need. They cite the deficit. Yet, I didn't hear a peep from the other side as the national debt ballooned under previous Republican administrations.

President Bush's ill-advised wars have cost us nearly \$2 trillion, and the debt increased by \$676 billion. President Trump's GOP tax scam increased the deficit by \$1.8 trillion, helping to lead to an increase in national debt by \$7.8 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, I am so thankful to President Biden for delivering on his commitment to Build Back Better. The American Rescue Plan now goes to the President's desk for signature. I can't wait.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Democrats.

HONORING U.S. ARMY VETERAN DENNIS DAVIS

(Mr. MOONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a great West Virginia icon and U.S. Army veteran, Mr. Dennis Davis, who passed away on January 19, 2021.

Dennis was the cabinet secretary for the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance. He understood the needs of our veteran community.

Dennis had also been a member of the West Virginia State University ROTC program. I enjoyed our time together as we met with veterans all across West Virginia's Second District.

During his lifetime, Dennis was the much-admired director for West Virginia Workforce Development, an educator who helped guide citizens toward jobs, opportunities, and fulfillment in their lives.

We commemorate his leadership, his service as an Army veteran, and his dedication to our great State. May his legacy forever live on to inspire hard work, devotion, and service.

COMMEMORATING TIBETAN UPRISING DAY

(Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of Tibetan Uprising Day.

Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of representing an incredibly diverse community of individuals at home in New York 14, many of whom are Tibetan. In fact, one of the largest constituencies of Tibetans in the world makes its home in New York 14.

For decades, the Tibetan people have bravely fought for their freedom, including to seek and fight for the freedom to simply be Tibetan: to speak their language; to practice their Buddhist religion; to sustain their culture, their traditional medicine, and their land; and to live freely in their own country.

It is the responsibility of all those who value freedom of speech and expression to stand with them against gross human rights abuses.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand with the Tibetan residents of New York 14 and all those across the country in their righteous fight against persecution.

DELIVERING RELIEF THROUGH AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Nevada's Third District.

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan, we have delivered on our promise to provide the relief that is so desperately needed 1 year after the COVID-19 pandemic broke out.

The pandemic has been especially hard on my home State of Nevada. The primary pillar of our economy, travel and tourism, has been absolutely devastated. It is not just our casinos and our hotels that have been hit, but our restaurant and convention workers, our entertainment and stage workers, and our aviation workers.

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan, we will save lives and get our economy back on track. We will get vaccines into arms. We will get our kids safely back into schools with the \$130 billion investment to get schools open and make up for lost time in the classroom. We will get people back in jobs with the expanded PPP loans, relief for restaurants and shuttered venues, and more. And, of course, we will get money into people's pockets immediately through the direct stimulus checks.

Mr. Speaker, in short, America, help is on its way, and it couldn't be more urgently needed.

GUN SAFETY MEANS MORE EQUITABLE FUTURE FOR ALL

(Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to add my voice to the passionate voices born of grief that we heard from today, to join my heart with their hearts.

Gun violence robs our communities and our families of innocent lives, innocent worshippers, innocent shoppers mowed down just because they are Latinos.

I rise for the children in too many schools who have lost their classmates, for the families who mourn their young, for the students who organized and petitioned us to act against gun violence with sensible laws. I am glad we passed the gun safety legislation to stem the epidemic of gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, New Mexico has the fourth-highest gun death rate in the country. Today, we took a common-sense, critical step to keep our New Mexican, our American, children, families, and communities safe, to drive us toward a more equitable, thriving future for all.

PEOPLE'S JUSTICE GUARANTEE

(Ms. PRESSLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reintroduce the People's Justice Guarantee, a bold, progressive vision to transform our criminal legal system from what it currently is to what it ought to be.

For far too long, Congress has enacted policies that failed millions of men, women, and children by expanding our carceral system and divesting from Black and Latinx communities.

Growing up with an incarcerated parent, these failures are personal to me. I worked with folks in communities that have been marginalized and ignored, like the incarcerated brothers of the AACC in the Massachusetts Seventh, to craft a resolution that confronts the systemic injustices that destabilized families and traumatized generations.

We should provide care for those in crisis, not confine them in solitary.

We should house our immigrant neighbors, not deport them from their communities.

We should counsel our kids, not lock them up in prison.

The People's Justice Guarantee offers these solutions and many others in a robust framework for a humane, equitable, and just legal system.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to reintroduce the People's Justice Guarantee so America can finally fulfill its promise of justice for all.

BACKGROUND CHECKS WORK

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, for too many communities in southeastern Pennsylvania, the steady toll of gun violence day in and day out is a horrifying reality.

Right now, my region is at the epicenter of a staggering uptick in gun violence taking place in the background of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the first 3 months of this year, over 300 people in the city of Philadelphia have been shot. Over 50 have been killed, and 5 of those were children.

Mr. Speaker, the gun violence measures we are voting on this week close major loopholes in our gun laws that have allowed people, who we all agree should not have guns, to purchase guns without completed background checks.

While our colleagues across the aisle claim these laws won't prevent gun violence, that is not true. Even with the loopholes, Federal background checks have prevented over 3 million sales to people we all agree should not have guns.

When required and enforced, background checks work, and they have the power to keep guns out of dangerous hands and off our streets.

Congressional complacency in addressing this issue has made our coun-

try less safe and put children and our most marginalized communities at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support these bills.

RIGHTS COME WITH RESPONSIBILITIES

(Mr. CROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I grew up a gun owner. I have been hunting since I was 12 years old. I became an Army Ranger and went to war for this country, where I led over 100 combat missions, carrying weapons of war at war in defense of our Nation.

But I am also a father, and I also represent a district that has been hit by some of the worst mass shootings in our Nation's history. I learned in the Army years ago that citizenship comes with duties and rights come with responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, we are failing each other in this country. It is time that we start fulfilling our duties and our responsibilities to each other. We have the opportunity to do that now and to save thousands of lives.

Mr. Speaker, I implore my colleagues to join with me and to pass the Bipartisan Background Checks Act.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE FOR THE 117TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, March 10, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I am pleased to submit for printing in the Congressional Record, pursuant to Rule XI, clause 2(a) of the Rules of the House, a copy of the Rules of the Committee on Agriculture, which were adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee on Agriculture on February 10, 2021.

Appendix A of the Committee Rules will include excerpts from the Rules of the House relevant to the operation of the Committee. Appendix B will include relevant excerpts from the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. In the interest of minimizing printing costs, Appendices A and B are omitted from this submission.

Sincerely,

DAVID SCOTT,
Chairman.

Enclosure.

(As adopted February 10, 2021)

RULE I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) Applicability of House Rules.—(1) The Rules of the House shall govern the procedure of the Committee and its subcommittees, and the Rules of the Committee on Agriculture so far as applicable shall be interpreted in accordance with the Rules of the House, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged motions in the Com-

mittee and its subcommittees. (See Appendix A for the applicable Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.)

(2) As provided in clause 1(a)(1) of House Rule XI, each Subcommittee is part of the Committee and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and its Rules so far as applicable. (See also Committee Rules III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII and XI, *infra*.)

(b) Authority to Conduct Investigations.—The Committee and its subcommittees, after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, may conduct such investigations and studies as they may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of their responsibilities under Rule X of the Rules of the House and in accordance with clause 2(m) of House Rule XI.

(c) Authority to Print.—The Committee is authorized by the Rules of the House to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee and its subcommittees. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with any meeting or hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be paid from applicable accounts of the House described in clause 1(k)(1) of House Rule X in accordance with clause 1(c) of House Rule XI. (See also paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of Committee Rule IX.)

(d) Vice Chairman.—The Member of the majority party on the Committee or Subcommittee designated by the Chairman of the full Committee shall be the vice chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee in accordance with clause 2(d) of House Rule XI.

(e) Presiding Member.—If the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee is not present at any Committee or Subcommittee meeting or hearing, the vice chairman shall preside. If the Chairman and vice chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee are not present at a Committee or Subcommittee meeting or hearing the ranking Member of the majority party who is present shall preside in accordance with clause 2(d) of House Rule XI.

(f) Publication of Rules.—The Committee's Rules shall be publicly available in electronic form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 60 days after the Chair is elected in each odd-numbered year as provided in clause 2(a) of House Rule XI.

(g) Joint Committee Reports of Investigation or Study.—A report of an investigation or study conducted jointly by more than one committee may be filed jointly, provided that each of the committees complies independently with all requirements for approval and filing of the report.

RULE II.—COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETINGS—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL AND SPECIAL

(a) Regular Meetings.—Regular meetings of the Committee, in accordance with clause 2(b) of House Rule XI, shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month to transact its business if notice is given pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of House Rule XI. The Chairman shall provide each Member of the Committee, as far in advance of the day of the regular meeting as practicable, a written agenda of such meeting. Items may be placed on the agenda by the Chairman or a majority of the Committee. (See paragraph (f) of Committee Rule XI for provisions that apply to meetings of subcommittees.)

(b) Additional Meetings.—(1) The Chairman may call and convene, as he or she considers necessary, which may not commence earlier than the third calendar day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day) on which Members have notice thereof after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or after concurrence with the Ranking Minority Member, additional meetings of the Committee